

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

[0016] As can be seen in FIG. 5, the trailer frame may comprise A-frame members 50, cross-members 52, and longitudinal members 54. The angle formed between the first side 20 and second side 30 is substantially equal to the angle formed by the two frame members to which the bracket fastens at the point of attachment of the bracket 10. The bracket 10 may attach to an A-frame member 50 and cross-member 52. For example, as As seen in FIG. 5, a preferred embodiment of the bracket 10 attaches to an A-frame member 50, a cross-member body 52A, and a cross-member flange 52B. Preferably, the bracket 10 attaches to the front major angle formed by an A-frame member 50 and a cross-member 52, again as seen in FIG. 5. As such, the angle between the first side 20 and second side 30 would be greater than ninety (90) degrees. However, the bracket 10 may optionally attach to the front minor angle formed by an A-frame member 50 and a cross-member 52. Accordingly, the angle formed between the first side 20 and second side 30 would be less than ninety (90) degrees.

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] The first side 20 and second side 30 of the bracket 10 each have an inner surface 20A, 30A and an outer surface 20B, 30B, respectively, as illustrated in FIGS. 1-2. The first side 20 and second side 30 of the bracket 10 include a plurality of dimples 24 that preferably form a recess in the inner surface 20A, 30A and a projection on the outer surface 20B, 30B.. In a

Ser. No. 10/081,254
Response to Office Action of 4 October 2003
Atty Docket 6523-54

preferred embodiment, the first side 20 and second side 30 each have two dimples 24 that are substantially vertically oriented. However, other orientations, such as horizontally spaced dimples 24, are contemplated, and can be utilized without deviating from the scope of the present invention.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] As seen in FIG. 1, the third side 40 of the bracket 10 is approximately ninety degrees to both the first side 20 and the second side 30. The third side 40 can be formed by, for example, bending elongated extensions 40A and 40B of the first side 20 and second side 30 until the elongated extensions 40A and 40B are ninety degrees to both the first side 20 and the second side 30, forming a third side 40 that is partially bilaminar, i.e., comprising at least partially overlapping portions or layers 40A and 40B.